congenial atmosphere for speedy foreign investment; if so, what are the details in this regard;

(b) what are the particular areas in which such changes are contemplated; and

(c) what other steps are being taken for giving foreign capital its due place in country's development?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE. (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (c) The basic frame-work of our foreign investment policy is laid-down in various documents including the Industrial Policy Resolution. Although it is not an *open door policy, it has a substantial* degree of flexibility. It permits technical as well as financial collaborations over a wide range of Industrial activities. It is the intention of the Government to promote more direct foreign investment within the broad framework of this policy. Several measures have been taken to streamline the procedures and remove bottlenecks so as to facilitate the inflow of direct foreign investment within the broad frame-work of this policy.

Detection of new assessees

1684. SHRI ALADI ARUNA *alias* V. ARUNACHALAM: Will the Minister of FINANCE pleased to state:

(a) what was the number of new income-tax assessees during the ear1986-87 and 1987-88; and

(b) what was the number of assessees detected during the survey operation during these years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) and (b) The Income-tax Department has added 6,55,563 new assessees on its records during the financial year 1986-87 and another 5,23,376 new assessees during the financial year 1987-88. The Income-tax Department carries out survey operations and also gathers material through its Central Information Branches for the purposes of, inter-alia, detecting new assessees. However, separate statistical data regarding the number of new assessees dectected only as a result of survey operations is not maintained by the Department. But it will be reasonable to attribute the additiopl of many of the new assessees to the survey operations carried out by the Department.

Concessional aid from world bank and IMF

1685. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and other developing cauntries have shown concern over the decline in concessional aid flows to the deloping countries at the meetings of the world Bank and IMF held on April 14 and 15 last in Wastington;

(b) what were the other points mentioned by India at the meeting; and

(c) what were the details of the points raised and to what extent the World Bank and IMF agreed to the points raised by India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (c) At the Spring meetings of the World Bank and the IMF, India expressed concern over the trends in the flow of development assistance, and the adverse impact of these trends on the growth of developing countries. It was stressed that these disturbing trends need to be reversed if the problem of poverty is to be tackled on any systematic and sustained basis, and indicated that there is a need to consider innovative approaches, for financing projects which have a direct impact on poverty alleviation.

At the Development Committee, a Joint Ministerial Committee of the World Bank and IMF, Ministers reiterated their commitment to support the low income countries in their development and adjus-